

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please CANCEL claims 5 and 6.

Please AMEND the claims in accordance with the following:

1. (ONCE AMENDED) An airgap type etalon comprising:

a fixing member having at least one flat surface;

a first parallel member, which is transparent to incident light and has parallel flat surfaces, one of said parallel flat surfaces thereof being joined to said flat surface of said fixing member;

at least one second parallel member, which has parallel flat surfaces in which a distance between said parallel flat surfaces thereof is greater than a distance between said parallel flat surfaces of said first parallel member, and has an expansion coefficient different from that of said first parallel member, one of the flat surfaces of said second parallel member being joined to said flat surface of said fixing member so as to surround the outer periphery of said first parallel member; and

a transparent member, which is transparent to incident light and has opposite flat surfaces, one of said flat surfaces thereof being joined to the other flat surface of said second parallel member, said other flat surface being opposite to the joined surface to said fixing member;

wherein a Fabry-Perot interferometer is formed based on an airgap positioned between the flat surface of said first parallel member and the flat surface of said transparent member facing each other, and wherein a distance between the parallel flat surfaces and the expansion coefficient of each of said first and second parallel members, are set to obtain temperature dependency of a transmission wavelength characteristic capable of compensating temperature dependency of incident light.

7. (ONCE AMENDED) An airgap type etalon of claim 1, wherein temperature dependency of said transmission wavelength characteristic is set to be 25pm/ °C or more.

Please ADD the following new claim:

14. (NEW) An airgap type etalon comprising:

a fixing member having a surface;

a first parallel member which is transparent to incident light and has parallel surfaces and

an expansion coefficient, one of said parallel surfaces being coupled to the surface of said fixing member;

a second parallel member having parallel first and second surfaces which are spaced apart by a distance which is greater than a distance between the surfaces of said first parallel member, said second parallel member having an expansion coefficient, the first surface of said second parallel member being coupled to the surface of said fixing member; and

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a transparent member having a surface coupled to the second surface of said second parallel member,

the distance between the parallel surfaces and the expansion coefficient of each of said first and second parallel members being set so as to produce an increase temperature dependency of a transmission wavelength characteristic, which is capable of compensating for a temperature dependency of light incident to said airgap type etalon.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please AMEND the Abstract as indicated (marked up copy and clean copy at end of Amendment).

REMARKS

In the Office Action the Examiner noted that claims 1-7 are pending in the application and the Examiner rejected all claims. By this Amendment, claims 5 and 6 have been cancelled and claims 1 and 7 have been amended. In addition, new claim 14 has been added. Thus, claims 1-4, 7 and 14 are pending in the application. The Examiner's rejections are traversed below.

The Specification

In item 2 on page 2 of the Office Action the Examiner requested the applicants' cooperation in correcting any errors. Specification changes are submitted herewith in order to correct errors identified by the applicants.